

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAUPACA FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise in celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Waupaca Fire Department. The Waupaca Fire Department was formed shortly after the founding of the city of Waupaca on May 11th, 1871. As the Waupaca community celebrates this milestone, we look back on the outstanding history of the department and critical role they have played in the community. Throughout their history the department has grown immensely and now provides service to approximately 150 square miles. For 150 years, the department has remained committed to serving the city of Waupaca and surrounding communities to the highest degree. In total, the Waupaca Fire Department's Fire Inspection Division works incredibly hard to keep the community safe, conducting an impressive 550 inspections for commercial business in 2019 alone. Their work demonstrates not only the amount of expertise and knowledge the department holds, but the importance the department places on keeping their communities safe.

Over the last 150 years, the department has faced many challenges, but their efforts to give back to the community have never wavered. From participating in the Annual Battle of the Badges Softball Tournament, where the Fire Department takes on the Police Department, to hosting corn roasts and raffles, the Waupaca Fire Department is a true pillar of the community and Northeast Wisconsin. Many Waupaca families have benefited from the department's thoughtfulness and generosity. When the department is not fighting fires and saving lives, their members donate their time and efforts to making Waupaca a better place. The department played a key role in countless improvements around the city, such as the playground in South Park and the construction of multiple shelter homes. I commend the department's dedication and commitment to the Waupaca community. The Waupaca Fire Department supplies the community with incredibly trained individuals who are able to handle fire and other emergencies at a moment's notice. It is evident that the knowledge, dedication, and perseverance conveyed through the men and women of this department are deserving of the highest degree of admiration.

I invite all members of this body to join me in celebrating the sesquicentennial of the Waupaca Fire Department. The Waupaca Fire Department is a true credit to the community and deserving of the highest degree of recognition.

RECOGNIZING THE WEST COAST UNIVERSITY—TEXAS HEALTHCARE HEROES APPRECIATION

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of the

U.S. House of Representatives and all of the communities that Dallas Medical Center and Dallas Regional Medical Center serve, and the West Coast University—Texas students pursuing careers in healthcare at a time when we need them more than ever, it is an honor and a privilege to have the opportunity to personally thank them and all of our healthcare heroes for their service and selfless acts of caregiving during this pandemic.

These frontline caregivers demonstrate tremendous courage and put themselves on the line every day to ensure the health and safety of our community.

During the last 15 months, the effects of the Covid pandemic required a personal sacrifice from each one of them unlike any other time in our country's history. These frontline healthcare workers experienced long, long hours for months on end, caring for thousands of critical patients, and losing more life than anyone can bear to witness.

These nurses and staff provided care for others while worried about their own health and the well-being of their family. Yet, they came to work every day.

For their uncommon bravery and resilience, I say "thank you!"

To express this appreciation, these certificates commemorate the healthcare heroes at Dallas Medical Center and Dallas Regional Medical Center.

In addition, I have another certificate to recognize the students of West Coast University—Texas, which focuses on educating and training the next generation of nurses and healthcare workers. These students have chosen to pursue careers in healthcare despite witnessing one of the most challenging times in the history of their profession. I have deep respect for their courage and service to our community.

Words are not enough to express the gratitude that I feel for the healthcare workers throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth area, the State of Texas, and across the country.

All of them deserve to be honored and celebrated.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN STELLA MELANSON

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Captain Stella Melanson for her remarkable career with the Hinesville Police Department.

Captain Melanson began working at the Hinesville Police Department in 1976 and became Hinesville's first certified female peace officer.

Over the past 43 years there has not been one area of the police department that Captain Melanson has not been involved in.

She has served on patrol, within the Detective's Division, Administrative Services Division, and was a founding member of the Tri-County Protective Agency for domestic violence victims. Captain Melanson would humbly argue that she does not play a big role within the police department, but her lifelong service proves otherwise.

During her time, she has provided the Hinesville Police Department with tremendous leadership and management.

She has dedicated her life to protecting and serving others and I thank her for her 43 years of service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF AVIATION ACT OF 2021

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Mr. CARSON. Madam Speaker, today I join my colleagues, Rep. DON YOUNG of Alaska, Chairman Emeritus of the Transportation Committee, and Rep. RICK LARSEN, Chairman of the Aviation Subcommittee, in re-introducing the bipartisan and bicameral National Center for the Advancement of Aviation Act of 2021. Our committee has worked for years to make American skies the safest in the world, and to strengthen the industry workforce to maintain the highest standards of aviation excellence.

Our legislation, the National Center for the Advancement of Aviation (NCAA) would support and promote collaboration amongst civil, commercial, and military aviation sectors to address the demands and challenges associated with ensuring a safe and vibrant national aviation system through research, education, and training.

Too often in the past, innovation and lessons learned in various aviation sectors has not been shared in a collaboratively or timely manner, especially considering rapid developments in new technology. Our bill helps break down silos across commercial aviation, general aviation and military aviation sectors that will not only improve safety and best practices, but also expand opportunities for those interested in the aviation workforce—for the young and not so young, from those just starting out, to those with experience who want to move into other types of aviation work.

The National Center would focus on four key areas with an emphasis on aviation workforce development. First, it would support education efforts and provide resources to curriculum developers so educators at all levels have the tools and training to educate the next generation of aviation professionals.

Second, the national center would provide a forum to leverage and share expertise amongst industry sectors including the dissemination of existing high school education curriculum to develop and deploy a workforce of pilots, aerospace engineers, unmanned aircraft system operators, aviation maintenance technicians, or other aviation maintenance professionals needed in the coming decades.

Third, it would serve as a central repository for economic and safety data research and analysis allowing a comprehensive perspective of industry information that would improve safety for all stakeholders.

Finally, it would support symposiums and conferences to facilitate collaboration across the industry and develop future advancements for the aviation and aerospace community.

This legislation would also allow the FAA to focus on safety, certification, and air traffic operations.

The national center would be funded by using a small percentage of the interest accrued annually on the taxes and fees collected from users of our aviation system and deposited into the aviation trust fund. In other words,